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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
MASAKAZU FURUKAWA ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION  
SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN  
(Based on PCT/JP00/02749) :  
FILED: HEREWITH :  
FOR: HOT PLATE AND PROCESS FOR :  
PRODUCING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

✓ ✓  
Please amend the claims as shown on the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows:

a' 3. (Amended) The hot plate according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of said resistance element is from 0.5 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .

5. (Amended) The hot plate according to claim 1, wherein said insulating substrate is at least one kind selected from a nitride ceramic, a carbide ceramic and a resin.

a 6. (Amended) The hot plate according to claim 1, wherein said resistance element is made of scaly noble metal powder.